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O R 080615Z JUN 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6573
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1716
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IDM//
DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT GROUP
RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO-CMI//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 08 KABUL 0979

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR USDAO;
DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MS. MILLIKAN; THE HAGUE FOR
A-DAM AND R-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 6/8/93
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TAGS: ASEC, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINR, PINS, PROP, SREF, UR, AF
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT JUNE 1 - JUNE 7, 1987

REF: KABUL 0925

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE BRIEFED TO JOURNALISTS
EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED. (NOTE TO BRIEFERS IN ISLAMABAD.

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PESHAWAR AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER CONCENTRATING ON SUMMARIES AND SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM PARAS 4 AND 5.)

3. SUMMARY:

(A) (TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:) FIGHTING INTENSIFIED AROUND THE CAPITAL DURING THE WEEK AS MUJAHIDIN BEGAN RE-INFILTRATING INTO HIGHLANDS EAST OF THE CITY. MEANWHILE, SOVIET FORCES SOUGHT TO COUNTER GROWING MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITY TO THE NORTH WITH BOMBING AND ARTILLERY STRIKES. WE COUNT 29 RELIABLY SOURCED REPORTS OF AIRCRAFT DOWNINGS DURING MAY, INCLUDING A MAY 29 SHOOTDOWN OF AN AIRCRAFT TRANSPORTING 12 DRA MILITARY PILOTS. ALL LATTER WERE KILLED. FIGHTING ALONG THE SALANG ROAD NORTH OF KABUL HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY FIERCE WITH OVER 110 SOVIETS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN RECENT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS IN BAGHLAN AND PARWAN. SIMILAR ACCOUNTS OF RECENT HEAVY FIGHTING WITH HIGH CASUALTIES IN PAKTIA, KANDAHAR AND LOGAR ALSO HAVE REACHED KABUL. IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, A RANKING SOVIET DIPLOMAT CLAIMS A PLENUM THIS COMING WEEK WILL OUST POLITBURO MEMBER ANAHITA RATEBZAD, A KARMAL LOYALIST. FORMER MUJAHIDIN COMMANDER ISMATULLAH MUSLIM (ORIGINALLY IDENTIFIED AS "ISLAM") REPORTEDLY IS HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH THE REGIME AS INDICATED BY A SHOOTOUT AT HIS HOUSE BETWEEN HIS FOLLOWERS AND KABUL SECURITY FORCES ON MAY 29. KABUL MERCHANTS CLAIM THEIR HIGHLY PROFITABLE RE-EXPORT TRADE

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OF GOODS TO PAKISTAN IS ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES POSED BY THE WEAK DOLLAR AND THE REGIME'S UNDERCUTTING OF THEIR PRICES IN THE LUCRATIVE PAKISTAN MARKET. KABUL MEDIA CLAIM THE DRA HAS CAPTURED FOUR STINGER MISSILES RECENTLY.

(B) (NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:) THE SOVIETS IN KABUL ARE SPREADING RUMORS OF THE KING'S IMMINENT RETURN TO THE CAPITAL. SEVERAL WESTERN DIPLOMATS CLAIM THAT HUMAN RIGHTS RAPORTEUR ERMACORA WILL VISIT KABUL IN JUNE OR JULY. WELL-SOURCED AFGHAN AND DIPLOMATIC REPORTS DESCRIBE INTERNECINE FIGHTING BETWEEN MUJAHIDIN GROUPS IN NORTHERN KABUL PROVINCE. END SUMMARY.

4. KABUL PYROTECHNICS AND SECURITY:

FIGHTING INCREASED IN OUTLYING AREAS OF THE CAPITAL WHILE SOVIET SECURITY MEASURES TIGHTENED SOMEWHAT WITHIN THE CITY, THOUGH DRA SECURITY GENERALLY REMAINED LAX.

-- JUNE 1: A FLARE FROM A DEPARTING AIRCRAFT DROPPED INTO THE YARD OF A U.S. EMBASSY RESIDENCE.

-- JUNE 2: AT 0653 A SMALL EXPLOSION, POSSIBLY A BOMB DETONATION, WAS HEARD IN NORTH KABUL. FROM APPROXIMATELY 1200 TO 1300 DIPLOMATS MONITORED PROTRACTED LIGHT AND HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE NORTH OF THE AIRPORT. (THE FIRING PROBABLY WAS TRAINING.) A DIPLOMAT HEARD MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER, HEAVY MACHINEGUN

AND SOME ARTILLERY FIRE TO THE NORTHWEST OF THE KABUL BASIN FROM 1915 TO 2000. A SECOND DIPLOMAT NOTED FIGHTING IN THE VICINITY OF THE SALANGHPASS BETWEEN 2005 AND 2015 WITH HEAVY MACHINEGUN AND TRACER FIRE BEING EXCHANGED. FROM 2200 TO 2300 NUMEROUS TRACER ROUNDS WERE FIRED FROM THE AIRPORT AREA. DIPLOMATS HEARD MACHINEGUN FIRE IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN AT 2345. SEVERAL REPORTS DESCRIBE INCOMING ORDNANCE ASSOCIATED WITH THE EARLY TO MID-EVENING FIGHTING NORTH OF KABUL.

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-- JUNE 3: BETWEEN 0142 AND 0150 EXPLOSIONS AND MACHINEGUN
FIRE WERE HEARD NEAR THE AIRPORT. AT APPROXIMATELY 0630 TROOPS
STATIONED AT RADIO AFGHANISTAN FIRED THREE PISTOL FLARES INTO
THE U.S. EMBASSY COMPOUND. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS
MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER FIRE AND EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY OUTGOING
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ARTILLERY, TO THE SOUTH AT MID-DAY. BETWEEN 2003 AND 2021 A
DIPLOMAT REPORTS HEAVY MACHINEGUN FIRE AND VARIOUS LIGHT ARMS
WEAPONS FIRE NEAR THE KHAIRKHANA PASS. WHAT APPEARS TO BE
THE RESULT OF A LARGE BLAST WAS NOTED 100 YARDS EAST OF THE
PALACE AREA ON BLUE MOSQUE STREET.

-- JUNE 4: A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS HEARING A SHOT IN
THE AREA OF THE SOVIET MILITARY HOSPITAL AND WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN
AN INCOMING ROCKET IN NORTHERN KABUL AT APPROXIMATELY 2100.

-- JUNE 5: DIPLOMATS REPORT A LOUD EXPLOSION IN NORTH KABUL AT 0920 AND APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES OF OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE FROM THE VICINITY OF THE KHAIRKHANA PASS. AT 2008 MACHINEGUN FIRE WAS HEARD NORTH OF THE AIRPORT. IT APPARENTLY PROMPTED HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE IN THE AIRPORT AREA. AT 2345 A DIPLOMAT REPORTS THE SOUND OF MUFFLED EXPLOSIONS AND BRIEF SKY ILLUMINATIONS TO THE EAST, PRESUMABLY CAUSED BY OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE AND IMPACTS IN THE MOUNTAINS EAST OF THE CITY (KOH-E SAFI).

-- JUNE 6: A DIPLOMAT HEARD BRIEF MACHINEGUN FIRE IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN AT 0322. FOR MUCH OF THE MORNING (1000 TO 1230) DIPLOMATS NOTED DISTANT ARTILLERY FIRE TO THE NORTH. FROM 2130 TO 2145 DIPLOMATS OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE ARTILLERY AND OTHER HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE FROM THE KABUL BASIN PLAIN EAST OF THE AIRPORT INTO THE MOUNTAINS FURTHER EAST (KOH-E SAFI).

-- JUNE 7: A DIPLOMAT REPORTS TEN TO FIFTEEN MINUTES OF SUSTAINED HEAVY MACHINEGUN FIRE TO THE NORTHWEST OF THE CITY BEGINNING AT 0100.

5. MILITARY MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA:

(A) (AIR:) AIR TRAFFIC DURING THE WEEK WAS MODERATELY HEAVY
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WITH A MODEST INCREASE IN IL-76'S ARRIVING AND DEPARTING (UP FROM 24 TO 27); SEVERAL HELICOPTER OPERATIONAL MOVEMENTS; FREQUENT NIGHTTIME HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE AND SEVERAL NIGHTS OF MODERATE TO HEAVY AIR TRAFFIC.

-- JUNE 1: TWO MI-8'S AND TWO MI-24'S DEPARTED TO THE SOUTHWEST AT 0545. THREE IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- JUNE 2: AIR ACTIVITY OVER NIGHT, INCLUDING HELICOPTER AND FIXED WING, WAS HEAVY. DURING THE DAY, FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

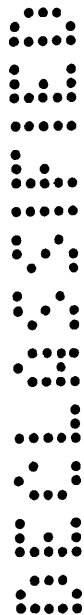
-- JUNE 3: AT 0615 TWO MI-7'S ACCOMPANIED BY TWO MI-8'S DEPARTED TO THE NORTHWEST. BETWEEN 1930 AND 1940, SIX HELICOPTERS WERE OBSERVED IN THE VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT. EACH USED ITS RED RUNNING LIGHTS AT ALTITUDES BELOW 500 FEET. SEVERAL ALSO USED LANDING LIGHTS AS THEY APPROACHED THE RUNWAY. AFTER 2230 HELICOPTERS (WITHOUT RUNNING LIGHTS) SURVEILLED THE AIRPORT AREA. BEGINNING APPROXIMATELY ON JUNE 3 AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE WEEK, SOME DEPARTING AIRCRAFT APPEARED TO ADOPT CIRCULAR ASCENT PATTERNS ORIENTED MORE TO THE SOUTH THAN PREVIOUSLY, POSSIBLY REFLECTING CONCERN ABOUT THE MUJAHIDIN ANTI-AIR CAPABILITY TO THE NORTH AND WEST. SIX IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- JUNE 4: SURVEILLANCE HELICOPTERS WERE ACTIVE DURING THE EVENING. THREE IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

-- JUNE 5: AT 0615 TWO MI-24'S AND TWO MI-8'S RETURNED TO
KABUL AT VERY LOW ALTITUDE FROM THE NORTH-NORTHWEST. AT
2215 FOUR HELICOPTERS RETURNED FROM THE SOUTHWEST. INTERMITTENT
HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE WAS NOTED DURING THE EVENING. THREE
IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

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O R 080615Z JUN 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
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SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6575
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
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AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
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-- JUNE 6: AT 0845 FOUR MI-24'S FLYING IN A QUAD FORMATION
DEPARTED AT LOW ALTITUDE TO THE SOUTH. DURING THE EVENING,
IN ADDITION TO HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE, FIXED-WING AND HELICOPTER
MOVEMENT INTO AND OUT OF THE KABUL AREA WAS HEAVY. ONE IL-76
ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.
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-- JUNE 7: SEVEN IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED. AT 0605
TEN HELICOPTERS DEPARTED TO THE SOUTHWEST. THERE WAS RELATIVELY
HEAVY EVENING FIXED-WING AIR TRAFFIC, ESPECIALLY AFTER MIDNIGHT.

(B) (VEHICULAR MOVEMENT:) MAJOR CONVOY MOVEMENT INTO AND OUT
OF KABUL WAS DOWN FROM THE PREVIOUS WEEK. (COMMENT: THIS MAY BE
DUE TO A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF KABUL-BASED UNITS ALREADY
BEING DEPLOYED OUT OF THE AREA, NOTABLY IN KANDAHAR AND

PAKTIA. END COMMENT). SOVIET NIGHTTIME ARMORED PATROLS AND DEPLOYMENTS IN THE CITY WERE MORE NUMEROUS THAN IN RECENT WEEKS.

-- JUNE 1: AT 0540 A SOVIET CONVOY OF OVER 40 VEHICLES (UNIT ID NUMBER 1313) MOVED NORTH OF THE SALANG ROAD.

-- JUNE 2: AT 1330 APPROXIMATELY 35 SOVIET TRUCKS AND BTR'S HEADED INTO NORTHERN KABUL FROM THE WEST. AT 2200 TWO BTR-80'S WERE PARKED IN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

-- JUNE 3: AT 0450 A DRA COLUMN CONTAINING 79 FUEL TANKERS AND 60 COVERED TRUCKS (UNIT ID NUMBER 219) MOVED OFF THE JALALABAD ROAD AND ONTO PERIMETER ROAD. IT CONTINUED WEST UNTIL IT REACHED KHAIR KHANA WHERE IT TURNED INTO A STAGING AREA AND WAS JOINED BY AN ESCORT CONSISTING OF: FOUR TR-152'S, TWO ZU-23 GUN TRUCKS AND ONE BTR-60. THE COLUMN, LATER THAT MORNING, MOVED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD. AT 0520 APPROXIMATELY 80 SOVIET TRUCKS (UNIT ID NUMBER 143) ESCORTED BY BTR-80'S AND ZU-23 GUN TRUCKS, WERE OBSERVED STAGED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD. AT 1320 A SOVIET COLUMN CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 30 TRUCKS MOVED INTO NORTHERN KABUL FROM THE WEST. AT 1345 A COMMUNICATIONS UNIT, CONTAINING TEN COMMUNICATIONS VANS OF VARIOUS TYPES, HEADED SOUTH THROUGH DARULAMAN. AT 1930 A SOVIET CONVOY OF OVER 50 FUEL TANKERS (UNIT ID NUMBER 1052) WAS OBSERVED MOVING
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TOWARD THE UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE AREA NORTH OF PERIMETER ROAD. AT 2200 BMP-2'S WERE OBSERVED POSITIONED AT TWO INTERSECTIONS IN KARTE PARWAN. A BMP ALSO PROVIDED OVERNIGHT SECURITY NEAR THE SOVIET HOSPITAL.

-- JUNE 4: BETWEEN 1645 AND 1700 THIRTY-SEVEN SOVIET KAMAZ ARTICULATED TRUCKS, ACCOMPANIED BY SUPPORT VEHICLES AND ZIL-131 TRUCKS, ESCORTED BY BTR-70'S AND ZU-23 GUN TRUCKS, ENTERED NORTHERN KABUL FROM THE GHAZNI ROAD. AT 2130 BMP-2'S WERE OBSERVED IN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND AT THE SOVIET HOSPITAL.

-- JUNE 6: BETWEEN JUNE 5 AND 6, MANY MAZ-537/TRUCKS HAULING DAMAGED ARMORED VEHICLES (OVER 20) MOVED INTO A HOLDING AREA AT THE JUNCTION OF SALANG AND PERIMETER ROADS (SEE PARA 6, "KABUL, NORTH"). AT 2215 A DRA PATROL, CONSISTING OF TWO JEEPS WITH ANTENNAS, TWO BTR-152'S AND FIVE TRUCKS CARRYING TROOPS, MOVED OFF PERIMETER ROAD INTO THE AREA NORTHEAST OF THE AIRPORT, BEYOND THE KABUL BASIN RIDGE.

-- JUNE 7: AT 0515 A SOVIET ARMORED COLUMN, INCLUDING 15 BTR'S (MOSTLY BO'S), TWO BRDM'S, AND ONE TRUCK-TOWED D-30, MOVED EAST ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 0520 A SOVIET CONVOY OF OVER 40 VEHICLES (UNIT ID NUMBER 1042) MOVED FROM A VEHICLE PARK NEAR THE SALANG-PERIMETER ROAD JUNCTION EAST ONTO PERIMETER ROAD. THE CONVOY CARRIED WOOD AND COAL. AT 0530 TWENTY-FOUR OPEN-BED

TRUCKS. EACH CARRYING 10 TO 12 DRA TROOPS. PLUS TWO BTR-60'S
AND FOUR TRUCK-TOWED 122 MM GUNS. LEFT SOUTHWEST KABUL. THEN
HEADED SOUTHEAST ON BLUE MOSQUE STREET.

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-- COMBAT IN THE PROVINCES --

6. KABUL PROVINCE (CITY DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED PARAS 4 AND 5):

FIGHTING IN KABUL PROVINCE ESCALATED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE
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WEEK WITH EXTENSIVE FIGHTING REPORTED NORTH OF THE CITY
AND REPORTS, SUPPORTED BY OBSERVATIONS, THAT MUJAHIDIN ARE
RE-INFILTRATING INTO THE HIGHLANDS EAST OF THE CITY.

(A) (KABUL NORTH:) IN THE SHOMALI FIGHTING HAS BEEN HEAVY WITH
SOVIET BOMBING AND SHELLING OF MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS AND
CIVILIAN AREAS, AND MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS ON CONVOYS AND POSTS:

-- SHAKADARA: AFGHANS REPORT HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE SHAKADARA

AREA MAY 31-JUNE 2, INCLUDING SOVIET AND DRA AIR ATTACKS ON MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS AND CIVILIAN AREAS. ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE, ON JUNE 1 MUJAHIDIN HIT A JET AS IT WAS ATTACKING THE AREA. THE JET ATTEMPTED TO RETURN TO BAGRAM AIR BASE BUT CRASHED KILLING THE PILOT (REPORTEDLY A WELL-KNOWN SOVIET PILOT NAMED RUSHKOV - PHONETIC).

-- GOLBAHAR: ACCORDING TO AFGHAN SOURCES, FIGHTING BETWEEN THE SOVIET/DRA FORCES AND MUJAHIDIN IN THE GOLBAHAR AREA IS CRONIC. ON JUNE 2, A TYPICAL DAY OF FIGHTING, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE, FOUR DRA TROOPS WERE KILLED. THE GOLBAHAR TEXTILE FACTORY REPORTEDLY IS FUNCTIONING.

-- QARABAGH: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE, IN THE LENGAR AREA ON MAY 29, A DRA TRANSPORT CARRYING A DRA MILITARY PILOTS FROM KABUL TO BAGRAM WAS HIT BY MUJAHIDIN FIRE AND CRASHED KILLING ALL PASSENGERS AND CREW.

-- AHANGAR: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT WITH GOOD ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION REPORTS THAT ON JUNE 2 MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET CONVOY AT AHANGAR (ON THE SALANG ROAD), DESTROYING TWO-TO-THREE ARMORED VEHICLES AND KILLING SEVEN SOVIET SOLDIERS.

-- SALANG ROAD: THE SAME SOURCE AS ABOVE REPORTS THAT ON
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APPROXIMATELY JUNE 4, THE DRA ATTACKED SOVIET TROOPS ON THE SALANG ROAD, DESTROYING TWO MILITARY VEHICLES. SOVIET HELICOPTERS RESPONDED WITH HEAVY BOMBING OF THE AREA.

-- NORTHERN PAGHMAN: A DIPLOMAT REPORTS HEARING ARTILLERY FIRE IN NORTHERN PAGHMAN BEGINNING AT 0900 ON JUNE 5.

(B) (KABUL EAST:) A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, QUOTING REGULAR AFGHAN SOURCES, REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN HAVE BEGUN TO RE-INFILTRATE INTO THE HIGHLANDS EAST OF THE CITY, GENERALLY IN THE KOH-E-SAFI AREA. (NOTE PARA 4, JUNE 5 AND 6: DIPLOMATS OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE FIGHTING IN THE AREA.)

(C) (KABUL WEST:) DIPLOMATS HEARD HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE SOUTH OF KARGHA LAKE IN THE CHAWKI ARGANDEH AREA ON JUNE 5 AT 0715. AT THE SAME TIME, TWO MI-24'S APPEARED TO BE SEARCHING IN THE VICINITY OF A NEARBY RIDGE. A DRA OFFICER CONFIRMED FIGHTING IN THE AREA DURING THE WEEK. AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET POST AT QALA QADZI (FIVE KMS. WEST OF KABUL), KILLING TWO SOVIET TROOPS; ONE MUJAHID WAS WOUNDED. A DIPLOMAT REPORTS ARTILLERY FIRE INTO THE PAGHMAN AREA ON JUNE 4.

7. BAGHLAN:

AN AFGHAN WHO HAS REPORTED RELIABLY IN THE PAST CLAIMS THAT ON
PAGE NO.

MAY 30 MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A MAJOR SOVIET BASE NEAR KHENJAN AND
OVERRAN THE POST, KILLING 80 SOVIET TROOPS AND CAPTURING TWO.
A SEPARATE AFGHAN REPORTS THAT IN THE ANDAROB VALLEY
(35'36"N 68'14"E) THERE WAS HEAVY SOVIET-MUJAHIDIN FIGHTING
DURING THE LAST WEEK OF MAY. A THIRD AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS
THAT ACCOUNTS IN REFTELS REGARDING THE DESTRUCTION OF BAGHLAN CITY
ARE ACCURATE, ADDING THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES ARE
ARRIVING IN KABUL WHILE OTHERS ARE HEADING FOR THE PAKISTAN
BORDER.

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AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//
DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT GROUP
RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO-CMI//

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8. PAKTIA:

A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THAT ON MAY 30 REGIME
AUTHORITIES TRANSFERRED 135 DRA CORPSES TO KABUL FROM FIGHTING
IN PAKTIA, ALL IN BAD CONDITION, SUGGESTING THAT THE DEATHS
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OCCURRED SOME DAYS BEFORE. A DIPLOMAT OF UNDERTERMINED
REPORTING RELIABILITY STATES THAT MUJAHIDIN IN MAY DOWNED AN
MI-24 IN THE SARI AREA (UNLOCATED). THE SAME SOURCE REPORTS
THAT AT THE ENND OF MAY MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED A TANK AND AN ARMORED
PERSONNEL CARRIER IN THE SAME AREA.

9. KUNDUZ, TAKHAR:

SOVIET FORCES WHICH REPORTEDLY MOVED INTO THE NORTHERN PARTS OF

THESE PROVINCES, FOLLOWING RAIDS LAUNCHED FROM THESE AREAS INTO SOVIET TERRITORY, HAVE FOR THE MOST PART RETURNED TO TADZHIKISTAN FOLLOWING THEIR REPRISAL ATTACKS ON THE AREA IN APRIL AND MAY.

10. LOGAR:

AN AFGHAN WITH A GOOD REPORTING RECORD ON DEVELOPMENTS SOUTH OF KABUL REPORTS THAT THERE WERE MAJOR DEPLOYMENTS OF SOVIET AND DRA ARMOR AND OTHER MILITARY ASSETS TO THE SOUTH TO DEAL WITH CHRONIC FIGHTING IN THE LOGAR VALLEY.

11. KANDAHAR:

REPORTS OF MANY CASUALTIES FROM THE FIGHTING IN KANDAHAR CONTINUE TO REACH KABUL. A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS MANY DEAD FROM THERE WERE BROUGHT TO KABUL JUNE 3.

12. GHAZNI:

AN AFGHAN SOURCE WHO HAS REPORTED RELIABLY IN THE PAST ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN GHAZNI CONTENDS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A DRA POST AT MOZOR ON JUNE 2, KILLING TEN DRA TROOPS.

13. HERAT:
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A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED TWO ARMORED VEHICLES IN MOHAJAL BABAJI AREA IN HERAT CITY ON MAY 24.

CLAIMED THE CITY WAS QUIET. A DIPLOMAT OF UNDETERMINED REPORTING RELIABILITY CLAIMS THAT AT THE END OF MAY MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET/DRA POST IN THE ZINDAGANI AREA (UNLOCATED). THE SAME SOURCE CLAIMS THAT ON MAY 16 SOVIET PLANES BOMBED THE KAWAYAN AREA, INFLECTING 20 CIVILIAN CASUALTIES.

14. PARWAN:

A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, SOURCING KNOWLEDGEABLE AFGHANS CLAIMS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A DRA CONVOY ON THE SALANG ROAD NEAR JABAL OS SARAJ ON JUNE 3, DESTROYING FOUR OR FIVE LARGE TRAILER TRUCKS BELONGING TO THE RECENTLY FORMED JOINT SOVIET-DRA IMPORT-EXPORT FIRM. ON MAY 29, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN, PRINCIPALLY FROM RABBANI'S GROUP, ATTACKED SOVIET TROOPS AT QALACHA-I-SHATA (34°50'N 69°10'E) DESTROYING THREE OR FOUR MILITARY VEHICLES, KILLING 30 TO 35 SOVIETS AND CAPTURING 12.

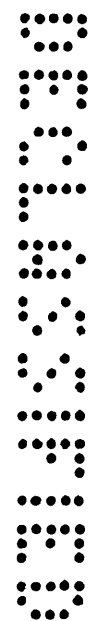
15. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (PLENUM PREDICTED:) A SOVIET DIPLOMAT HAS TOLD A

COLLEAGUE THAT THE PDPA 21ST PLENUM WILL CONVENE IN THE SECOND WEEK OF JUNE. HE CLAIMS THE PLENUM WILL REMOVE KARMAL LOYALIST DR. ANAHITA RATEBZAD FROM HER SENIOR PARTY POSITIONS. THE ONLY OTHER CHANGE PREDICTED WAS THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

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	DODE-00	H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	HA-09	L-03
	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00	RP-10	ACDA-12
	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02
	T-01	/078 W					

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O R 080615Z JUN 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6578
INFO RUEHJUGXAFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1721
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//
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(B) (SOVIETS ACKNOWLEDGE REGIME WEAKNESSES:) A SOVIET DIPLOMAT
RECENTLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO A COLLEAGUE THAT WHILE THE REGIME
CLAIMS 180,000 PDPA MEMBERS, THE FIGURE IS ACTUALLY 113,000, OF
WHICH ONLY 50,000 ARE ACTIVE. THE SOVIET FURTHER STATED
THAT THE ACTUAL FIGHTING STRENGTH OF THE DRA MILITARY WAS
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APPROXIMATELY 40,000 (RATHER THAN 500,000 CLAIMED BY SOME
SOVIET AND DRA SOURCES).

(C) (REGIME CONFLICT WITH ISMATULLAH MUSLIM:) THE GUNFIGHT
REPORTED PARA 4 "MAY 29" REFTEL, INVOLVED SUPPORTERS OF FORMER
MUJAHIDIN COMMANDER ISMATULLAH MUSLIM. THE FORMER COMMANDER,
WHO WAS GIVEN A HOUSE IN KABUL AND LARGE SUMS OF MONEY
UPON HIS DEFECTION TO THE REGIME SEVERAL YEARS AGO, REPORTEDLY
HAS HAD CHRONIC PROBLEMS WITH THE REGIME ARISING IN PART FROM

REGIME ATTEMPTS TO KEEP ISMATULLAH'S MEN OUT OF KANDAHAR CITY AND TO RESTRICT THE SOPHISTICATION OF WEAPONS IN HIS ARSENAL. WHILE THE FIGHTING THAT ERUPTED IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN MAY 29 APPEARS TO HAVE HAD A NON-POLITICAL CAUSE, REPORTS THAT INTERIOR MINISTER GULABZOI VISITED THE SCENE OF THE FIGHTING SUGGESTS SERIOUS PROBLEMS BETWEEN ISMATULLAH AND THE REGIME. FOR EXAMPLE, ACCORDING TO ONE UNCONFIRMED REPORT, ISMATULLAH'S MEN IN KANDAHAR AT THE END OF RAMAZAN HANGED SIX REGIME OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE KABUL SOURCES, ISMATULLAH SUPPORTERS REMAIN IN THE WAZIR AKBAR KHAN HOUSE OF THEIR COMMANDER AND ON JUNE 3 SUCCESSFULLY BLOCKED THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECURITY CHECKPOINT NEAR THEIR HOUSE FROM WHICH KABUL SECURITY FORCES EXCHANGED FIRE WITH THEM MAY 29.

(D) (SOVIET OFFICER SPEAKS ON WITHDRAWAL:) REPORTS CIRCULATING IN KABUL CLAIM THAT DURING A RECENT BRIEFING FOR AFGHAN OFFICERS BY A SENIOR SOVIET MILITARY OFFICER, THE LATTER STATED THAT SOVIET FORCES WOULD NOT WITHDRAW BEFORE TWO YEARS.

(E) (KARMAL IN MOSCOW:) EAST EUROPEANS ARE PEDLING A REPORT THAT FORMER PDPA GENERAL SECRETARY KARMAL, WHO LEFT FOR THE SOVIET UNION ON MAY 4 FOR "REST AND MEDICAL TREATMENT", IS BEING TREATED FOR ALCOHOLISM. A SEPARATE REPORT CONTENTS THAT AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW, SOVIET LEADER GORBACHEV APPEALED CONFIDENTIAL
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TO KARMAL TO HELP RESTORE PDPA UNITY. KARMAL REPORTEDLY REFUSED.

(F) (PRAYERS HONORING THE KING IN KANDAHAR:) ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE, SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, PRAYERS AT A MOSQUE IN KANDAHAR WERE OFFERED IN THE NAME OF THE KING. SUCH A "KHUTBA" OR PRAYER DEDICATION HAD NOT BEEN MADE SINCE THE KING'S OVERTHROW IN 1973.

(G) (DRA AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO REMOVED-?) RELIABLE AND KNOWLEDGABLE DIPLOMATS CLAIM THAT THE DRA AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN LEFT TOKYO ON APRIL 6. ACCORDING TO REPORTS NOW CIRCULATING IN KABUL, THE FORMER AMBASSADOR, THE ONLY DRA AMBASSADOR IN THE WEST (A HOLD OVER FROM PRE-APRIL 1978 GOVERNMENT) WOULD BE GIVEN A SENIOR REGIME APPOINTMENT, POSSIBLY AS A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.

(H) (KESHTMAND TO IRAQ:) PRIME MINISTER KESHTMAND WAS IN BAGHDAD JUNE 4-7 AT THE HEAD OF A DELEGATION WHICH INCLUDED COMMERCE MINISTER JALALAR, MINISTER OF ISLAMIC AFFAIRS ZARIFI AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ZARIF. FOREIGN MINISTER WHO WAS SLATED TO GO ALS WAS SIDELINED IN KABUL BY AN APPENDECITIS.

16. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (REPORTS OF AIRCRAFT DOWNINGS:) REVIEWING REPORTING FOR MAY,

THERE ARE 29 RELIABLY SOURCE REPORTS OF AIRCRAFT DOWNED BY MUJAHIDIN IN THE MONTH. (COMMENT: WE EXCLUDE FROM THIS COUNT SEVERAL REPORTS OF WHICH WE ARE SKEPTICAL AND EMPHASIZE THAT THIS TOTAL IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE. END COMMENT)

(B) (SOVIET EQUIPMENT:) DIPLOMATS HAVE OBSERVED AN MT-LB (A TRACKED ARMORED VEHICLE) IN KABUL ON WHICH WAS MOUNTED A 122MM FIELD HOWITZER.

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INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00
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	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01	DS-01	USE-00	P-02
	T-01	/078 W					

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O R 080615Z JUN 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6579
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1722
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HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
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(C) (FLARE INCIDENTS:) WESTERN MEDICAL PERSONNEL HAVE REPORTED
A DEATH ATTRIBUTED TO A FLARE DROPPED BY A DEPARTING
AIRCRAFT. WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT REPORTS OF BURNS
DUE TO FLARES, ESPECIALLY AS SUFFERED BY CHILDREN WHO OFTEN
CHASE THE FLARES WHICH ARE DROPPED IN THE HUNDREDS BY DEPARTING
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AIRCRAFT (USUALLY SOVIET) SEEKING TO DIVERT HEAT SEEKING MISSILES.
NO DEATHS PREVIOUSLY HAVE BEEN REPORTED DUE TO FLARE INJURIES.

17. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:

KABUL MERCHANTS CLAIM TO BE SUFFERING FROM A DOWNTURN IN THE
RE-EXPORT TRADE WITH PAKISTAN (IN WHICH GOODS FROM INDUSTRIALIZED
COUNTRIES ARE ROUTED THROUGH AFGHANISTAN TO PAKISTAN TO AVOID
HIGH PAKISTANI CUSTOMS DUTIES IMPOSED ON GOODS IMPORTED DIRECTLY

FROM THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES.) THE TRADE, ACCORDING TO MERCHANTS, HAS BEEN HURT BY THE DECLINE OF THE DOLLAR WHICH IS USED BY MERCHANTS TO PURCHASE THE PRODUCTS. THE RESULT HAS BEEN HIGHER PRICES IN THE PAKISTANI MARKETS. COMPLICATING FURTHER THE KABUL MERCHANTS' PROBLEMS, THE REGIME REPORTEDLY IS ASSISTING PASHTOON MERCHANTS IN PAKISTAN WHOM IT SEEKS TO CULTIVATE, OFFERING THEM MANUFACTURED GOODS FOR SALE IN PAKISTAN AT PRICES BELOW THOSE WHICH KABUL MERCHANTS CAN SELL THEM. THE IMMEDIATE RESULT OF THIS DOWNTURN IN TRADE HAS BEEN A MASSIVE BACKLOG IN THE KABUL CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES. MERCHANTS REPORT ANOTHER BACKLOG AT SOVIET-AFGHAN TRADE TRANSIT POINTS HAIRATAN AND TERMEZ WHERE A DEARTH OF AVAILABLE TRUCKS AND INSECURE AND POOR ROADS HAVE COMBINED TO CREATE A BACKUP NUMBERING 8,000 FREIGHT CONTAINERS.

18. KABUL MEDIA:

-- JUNE 1: KABUL MEDIA REPORTED THE CAPTURE OF A LARGE MUJAHIDIN ARMS CACHE IN THE SORUBI AREA CONTAINING 1,500 GROUND-TO-GROUND ROCKETS AMONG OTHER ORDNANCE. ALLEGEDLY ONE STINGER MISSILE WAS CAPTURED AS WELL, BRINGING TO FOUR THE STINGERS RECENTLY SEIZED ACCORDING TO THE REGIME. THE MEDIA ALSO CLAIMED THAT THREE PERSONS WERE KILLED AND FIVE WOUNDED IN MAIMANA BY BOMBS PLACED IN CROWDED AREAS BY "EXTREMISTS."

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-- JUNE 2: THE JUNE 2 EDITION (AND JUNE 4 AS WELL) OF THE KABUL NEW TIMES, DEVOTED ONE QUARTER OF ITS SPACE TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE UPCOMING INDIAN TRADE EXHIBIT (JUNE 18-27).

-- JUNE 3: DRA MEDIA COVERED THE KABUL VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF TADZHIKISTAN.

-- JUNE 4: KABUL TELEVISION ANNOUNCED THAT MUJAHIDIN ROCKETS RESULTED IN DEATHS IN QALAT (ZABOL PROVINCE).

19. NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:

(A) (SOVIETS SPREAD RUMORS ABOUT THE RETURN OF THE KING: DIPLOMATS REPORT THAT SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TELLING AFGHANS RECENTLY THAT THE FORMER KING WILL RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN IN JULY. REPORTEDLY PREPARATIONS FOR HIS RETURN ARE NOW BEING MADE AT ONE PALACE WHICH IS BEING REFURBISHED. (COMMENT: WE STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT THESE RUMORS ARE GROUNDLESS AND POSSIBLY AIMED AT SOWING CONFUSION AND DISCORD AMONG AFGHANS IN GENERAL AND MUJAHIDIN IN PARTICULAR.)

(B) (ERMACORA TO KABUL IN JUNE:) USUALLY RELIABLE DIPLOMATS REPORT THAT UN HUMAN RIGHTS RAPPOREUR ERMACORA MAY VISIT KABUL AS EARLY AS JUNE OR JULY. (WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT).

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	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02
	T-01	/078 W					

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O R 080615Z JUN 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
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(C) (MUJAHIDIN IN-FIGHTING:) A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT AND AN AFGHAN
SOURCE SEPARATELY REPORT THAT MUJAHIDIN GROUPS IN THE QARABAGH
AND SHAKADARA AREAS HAVE CLASHED RECENTLY. IN THE QARABAGH
AREA, A HEZBI ISLAMI COMMANDER NAMED HADI IS THE PRINCIPAL
MUJAHIDIN LEADER. A SECOND GROUP, KNOWN AS THE "SMALLER

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HEZBI ISLAMI". LED BY ABDOUL KARIM, HAS DIFFERED WITH THE
LARGER HEZBI ISLAMI GROUP AND ALSO WITH THE LOCAL JAMIATI
ISLAMI GROUP.

(D) (SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIAL VISITS KABUL?): ACCORDING TO
WELL-SOURCED DIPLOMATIC REPORTS, A SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIAL
VISITED KABUL FOR "SEVERAL HOURS" EARLY IN THE WEEK. DIPLOMATS
NOTED UNUSUAL HELICOPTER ESCORT FOR SEVERAL ARRIVING AND
DEPARTING AIRCRAFT DURING THAT TIME. EARLIER, A RELIABLE

SOURCE REPORTED THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VORONSTOV WOULD
LIKELY VISIT KABUL SHORTLY TO "DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN KABUL AND MOSCOW." (COMMENT: FOR THE MOMENT WE REGARD
ALL OF THE ABOVE AS UNCONFIRMED. END COMMENT)

20. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EALUM

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